

Eligibility for Absentee Voting In West Virginia

An absentee voter is a voter who is eligible to vote and cannot make it to the polls during Early Voting or on Election Day. This document details the eligibility for absentee voting by-mail.

Regular Absentee by Mail Eligibility

Voters not able to vote in person during Early Voting or Election Day due to one of the following circumstances may vote a regular absentee ballot by mail:

- Injury or illness
- Disability or advanced age
- Incarceration or home detention (does not include individuals convicted of any felony, treason, or election bribery)
- Work hours and distance from county seat
- Inaccessible early voting site and polling place
- Personal or business travel*
- Attendance at college or other place of education or training*
- Temporary residence outside of the county*
- Service as an elected or appointed state or federal official*

*Voter must receive ballot at an address outside of the county.

Special Absentee Voting List Eligibility

Voters may apply and receive a ballot in every election for one of the reasons below:

- Participation in the Address Confidentiality Program (ACP)
- A permanent, physical disability prevents voter from going to the polling place

Military and Overseas (UOCAVA) Voters Eligibility

The following voters are covered by the [Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act \(UOCAVA\)](#):

- Members of the United States uniformed services and Merchant Marines on active duty
- Their spouses and dependents
- United States citizens temporarily or permanently residing outside the country

Emergency Absentee Voting Eligibility

Voters in the hospital on Election Day and last-minute replacement poll workers may call the County Clerk to have an application and ballot delivered to them.

The County Commission may adopt a policy before each election to extend emergency absentee voting to the following individuals:

- Voters who have resided in a nursing home within the county for less than thirty days
- Voters who are in a hospital or other duly licensed health care facility within an adjacent county or within thirty-five miles of the county seat;
- Voters who become confined, on or after the seventh day preceding an election, to a specific location within the county because of illness, injury, physical disability, immobility due to advanced age, or another medical reason.